

**From:** Rogers (038)  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I am disappointed by the terms of the Department's proposed settlement with Microsoft, which I believe to be excessively lenient to Microsoft and not in the best interests of the public. The settlement does too little to restore competition to an industry dominated and abused by Microsoft's exploitation of its monopoly in operating-system software. Under the settlement Microsoft can continue to use its inside access to its operating-system technology and its monopoly market power to suppress competition by other companies.

During the last presidential election it was reported that Microsoft and its employees made substantial financial contributions to the Republican presidential campaign. It was then speculated by the press that Microsoft believed that by doing so it would receive lenient treatment from the Department of Justice if George Bush won the presidency.

It now appears that the money donated by Microsoft and its employees to the Republican Party was money well spent. While the donations are not likely to be provable criminal bribery, the donations certainly show that money can buy (the Department of) "Justice."

Ronald L. Miller